

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Original) A method for regulating transcription activated by the transcription factor NF $\kappa$ B in a part of a blood vessel or vascular graft, wherein the method comprises the step of contacting the graft with a decoy for the transcription factor NF $\kappa$ B.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the part of the vessel or vascular graft is a vein graft.
3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein the method comprises contacting the NF $\kappa$ B decoy with a part of the vessel or vascular graft *in vivo* or *ex vivo*.
4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~, wherein the method comprises introducing the NF $\kappa$ B decoy into the vessel or vascular graft using a pressure-mediated method.
5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~, wherein the method suppresses neointimal formation in the graft by contact with the decoy against the transcription factor NF $\kappa$ B.
6. (Original) An agent for protection from intimal thickening in a vascular graft, wherein the agent comprises an NF $\kappa$ B decoy.
7. (Original) The agent for protection of claim 6, wherein the vascular graft is a vein graft.
8. (Currently Amended) The agent for protection of claim 6 ~~or 7~~, wherein the agent is for introducing an NF $\kappa$ B decoy into a vessel or vascular graft using a pressure-mediated method.